

Tom Horne  
Superintendent

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## ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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### **STANDARDIZED TESTING TIME CUT IN HALF** **AIMS TESTING BEGINS MONDAY** *HIGH SCHOOL MATH TEST TUESDAY, APRIL 12*

PHOENIX (Friday, April 8, 2005) -- Arizona Schools Chief Tom Horne today issued a reminder to parents and students that standardized testing begins on Monday, April 11 through April 22. Students in grades 3 through 8 will be taking the AIMS/DPA (one test instead of two) and grades 2 and 9 will be taking a "norm reference" test. High schools students will take the math test on Tuesday, April 12.

"Teachers, students and parents were complaining about having to take two tests during the two week testing window. We heard the complaints and responded by combining the two tests into one test called Dual Purpose Assessment (AIMS/DPA)," said Superintendent Tom Horne.

Horne added: "The Department has posted sample tests for students and parents to use, including the correct answers, so they can work on weak areas and be prepared for the test; for the first time the test questions are written by Arizona teachers so the questions will be a good match to what is taught in class; and the student reports will be sent to parents in early June as opposed to September in the event that a student may need any tutoring or other assistance over the summer."

Horne concluded: "Get plenty of rest this weekend; have a well-balanced breakfast on the date your school has scheduled the test; review and answer every question; keep a positive attitude; and most importantly, GOOD LUCK!"

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